

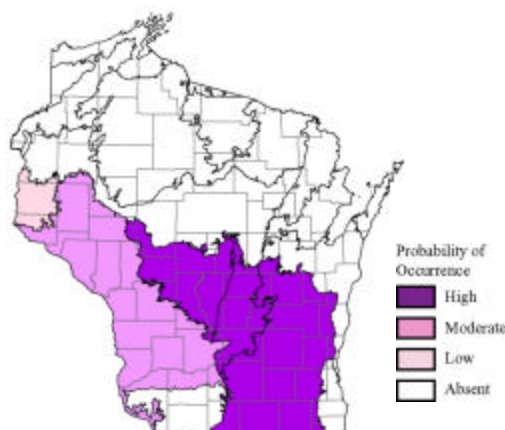
## Whooping Crane (*Grus americana*)

### Species Assessment Scores\*

State rarity:	NA
State threats:	4
State population trend:	3
Global abundance:	5
Global distribution:	5
Global threats:	5
Global population trend:	3
Mean Risk Score:	4.2**
Area of importance:	3

\* Please see the [Description of Vertebrate Species Summaries \(Section 3.1.1\)](#) for definitions of criteria and scores.

\*\* Based on fewer than the standard 7 criteria.



### Ecological Landscape Associations

Please note that this is not a range map. Shading does not imply that the species is present throughout the Landscape, but represents the probability that the species occurs somewhere in the Landscape.

### Landscape-community Combinations of Highest Ecological Priority

Ecological Landscape	Community
Central Sand Hills	Emergent marsh
Central Sand Hills	Southern sedge meadow
Central Sand Hills	Submergent marsh
Central Sand Plains	Emergent marsh
Central Sand Plains	Northern sedge meadow
Central Sand Plains	Open bog
Central Sand Plains	Submergent marsh
Southeast Glacial Plains	Emergent marsh
Southeast Glacial Plains	Southern sedge meadow
Southeast Glacial Plains	Submergent marsh
Western Coulee and Ridges	Emergent marsh
Western Coulee and Ridges	Submergent marsh

### Threats and Issues

- Wind towers, communication towers, electrical transmission lines, and fences are potential threats if placed in or near habitats frequently used by Whooping Cranes.
- Preservation of remaining isolated, quiet wetlands that are needed for breeding habitat is critical.
- Foraging in areas that have been landspread or filled with wastes (sludge or biosolids) high in bioaccumulative organics will threaten reproductive success.
- Motor-powered activities in vicinity of nesting will likely disrupt successful breeding.
- Conflicts with agricultural interests, such as crop depredations, are an issue.
- Accidental shooting is a potential threat.

**Priority Conservation Actions**

- Enhance and preserve large tracts of isolated shallow marsh wetlands, river bottoms, and sedge meadow.
- Specific management actions can be determined after more information is acquired regarding specific habitat preferences and species abundance in Wisconsin. At this date of Whooping Crane restoration efforts, we lack specific habitat preference data.
- Continue development of a Wisconsin Whooping Crane Management Plan.
- Collaboration with the Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trail, tourism efforts, and the Wisconsin birding community will add to community support and awareness.
- Payment incentives for private landowner restoration may be useful if Whooping Cranes attempt nesting on private wetlands.
- Conduct research regarding the impacts that wind towers and motor-powered activities may have on Whooping Crane populations.